



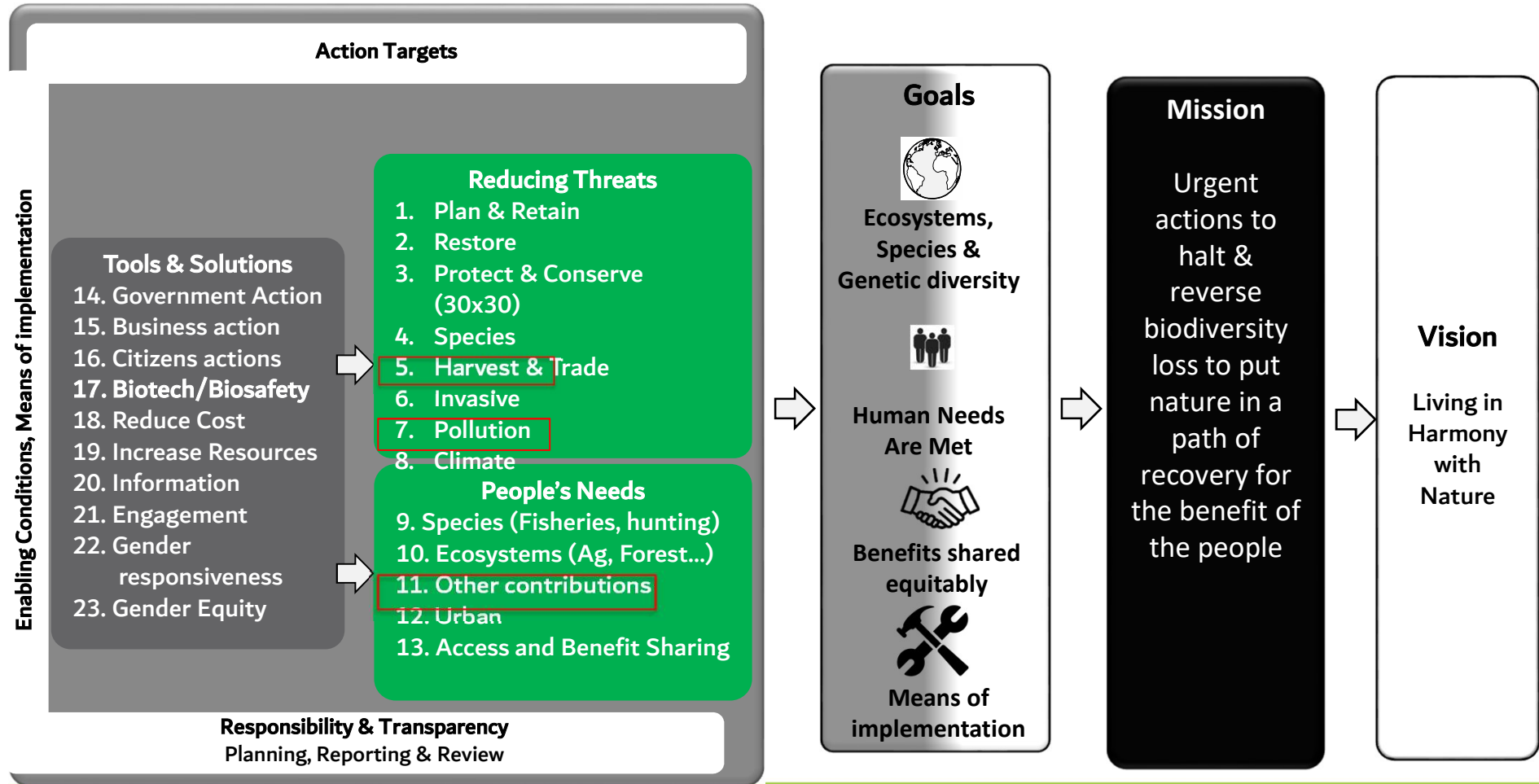
Global updates related to Natural Capital Accounting

National NCA Forum
07 August 2024

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- Linkages between the SEEA EA and the GBF
- Global Biodiversity Framework targets linkages with NCA
- GBF Monitoring Framework
- White Paper and GBF Alignment
- Indicators relevant to NCA from the GBF
- Snapshot of national accounts and how they support the GBF
- 2025 System of National Accounts
- UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting
- System of Environmental-Economic Accounting(SEEA) Central Framework
- Proposed programme of work

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework



Linkages between the SEEA EA and the GBF

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted December 2022 at CBD COP15



FOUR GOALS

- Goal A** Protect and Restore
- Goal B** Prosper with Nature
- Goal C** Share Benefits Equally
- Goal D** Invest and Collaborate

23 TARGETS in three themes

- Reducing threats to biodiversity (Targets 1-8)
- Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing (Targets 10-13)
- Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming (Targets 14-23)

19 headline indicators

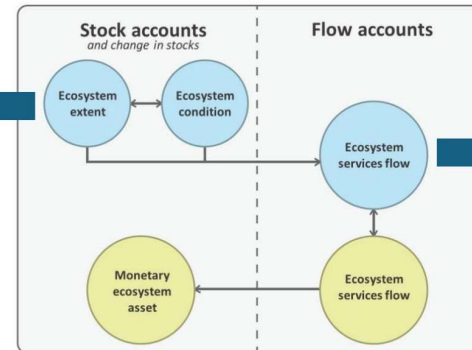
Each with a metadata sheet that sets out rationale, definitions, methodology

Three of these 19 indicators use SEEA Ecosystem Accounting as their methodological basis and have UNSD as the custodian of the indicator

Countries expected to report on these indicators for the first time in early 2026

Linking the core ecosystem accounts to indicators

Ecosystem extent account provides the basis for **Indicator A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems**



Ecosystem services account (physical) provides the basis for **Indicator B.1 Services from ecosystems**



Figure 2.2 from SEEA Ecosystem Accounting

Goal A: Protect and Restore

Ecosystems

The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all **ecosystems** are maintained, enhanced, or restored, *substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050*;



- A.1 Red List of Ecosystems
- A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems** (based on SEEA Ecosystem Accounting)



Goal B: Prosper with Nature

- D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems
- D.3 Private funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems



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Global Biodiversity Framework targets linkages with NCA

- Adopted at CBD COP 15 in Canada in December 2022 (Decision 15/4) - the key outcome of the UNCBD COP
- **GBF Target 1:** Inclusive spatial planning, Accounts measure land and sea use change and extent of natural ecosystem types
- **GBF Target 2:** 30% degraded ecosystems restored, Ecosystem accounts (extent and condition) across realms
- **GBF Target 3:** Protect and Conserve, Accounts measure extent of protected areas and conservation areas and related statistics
- **GBF Target 8:** CC & ocean acidification, Biocarbon accounts linked with energy, carbon and air emission accounts
- **GBF targets 9 & 11:** Nature's contribution to people, Accounts for SWSAs, Biodiversity Economy Satellite Accounts, and future ecosystem service accounts

Global Biodiversity Framework targets linkages with NCA

- **GBF Target 14:** Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, **strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments** and, as appropriate, **national accounting**, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and **fiscal and financial flows** with the goals and targets of this framework

GBF Monitoring Framework

- The K-M GBF is supported by a monitoring framework containing indicators for monitoring implementation;
 - **Headline indicators-** nationally, regionally and globally relevant indicators validated by Parties which capture the overall scope of the goals and targets of the K-M GBF to be used for planning and tracking progress.
 - **Global level indicators** - global indicators based on responses to yes/no questions to be included in the national reporting template, which will provide a count of the number of countries having undertaken specified activities.
 - **Component indicators:** optional indicators that, together with the headline indicators, cover components of the goals and targets of the K-M GBF which may apply at the global, regional, national and subnational levels;
 - **Complementary indicators:** optional indicators for thematic or in-depth analysis of each goal and target which may be applicable at global, regional, national, and subnational levels;



GBF Monitoring Framework cont..

- GBF Monitoring Framework noted the value of aligning national monitoring with the **System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)** statistical standard in order to mainstream biodiversity in **national statistical systems and to strengthen national monitoring systems and reporting** as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances;
- Indicators in the monitoring framework for the GBF should meet the following criteria, amongst others:
 - When possible, indicators are aligned with existing intergovernmental processes under the Statistical Commission, such as the SDGs, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics or the SEEA or utilize the existing work on essential biodiversity variables under the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network.



White Paper and GBF Alignment

Vision: An inclusive, transformed society living in harmony with nature, where biodiversity conservation and sustainable use ensure healthy ecosystems, with improved benefits that are fairly and equitably shared for present and future generations

Goal 1: Enhanced Biodiversity Conservation: All biological diversity and its components conserved

Aligned with Goal A; T1-T6, T8; T11, T17 of the GBF

Goal 2: Sustainable Use: The sustainable use of biodiversity enhances thriving living land- and seascapes and ecosystems, livelihoods, and human well-being, while a duty of care avoids, minimises, or remedies adverse impacts on biodiversity

Aligned with Goal B; T2; T5; T7, T8, T9; T10; T11, T12, T17, T18 of the GBF

Enabler 1: Integrated, Mainstreamed and Effective Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use: Integrated policy and practice across government and the effective implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements;

aligned with T14; T15; T16, T18 of the GBF

Enabler 2: Enhanced Means of Implementation: Expanded and developed ability to effectively conserve biodiversity, to manage its use and benefits, whilst addressing factors threatening biodiversity

Aligned with Goal D; T18, T19-T23 of the GBF

Aligned to Goal C; T9, T10; T12, T13

Goal 3: Equitable Access and Benefit Sharing: Benefits are derived and shared from the use and development of South Africa's genetic and biological resources, without compromising the national interests

Aligned to T3; T22; T23 and section C

Goal 4: Transformed Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use: Effect is given to the environmental right as contained in Section 24 of the Constitution which facilitates redress, and promotes transformation



Indicators relevant to NCA from the GBF

TARGET 14: Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.

Indicator text: Number of countries integrating biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty eradication strategies and, as appropriate, national accounts, within and across all levels, across all sectors, and progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this Framework.

Binary question (14.2): Does your country use environmental economic accounting to quantify the monetary and non-monetary values of biodiversity?

- (a) No
- (b) Under development
- (c) Partially
- (d) Fully

Component indicator: Integration of biodiversity into national accounting and reporting systems, defined as implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.9.1b)

Indicators relevant to NCA from the GBF

TARGET 11: Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.

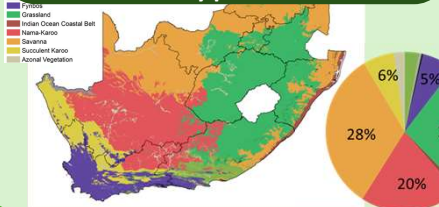
Complementary Indicator: Air emission accounts

TARGET 11, Nature's Contribution to People: Accounts for SWSAs, Biodiversity Economy Satellite Accounts, and future ecosystem service accounts

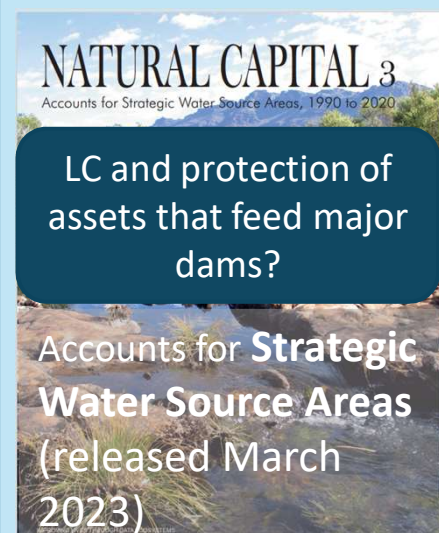
Snapshot of national accounts and how they support the GBF



Informs GBF indicator for Goal A on extent of natural ecosystem types



Informs GBF Headline indicators for Target 3:1 Coverage of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures

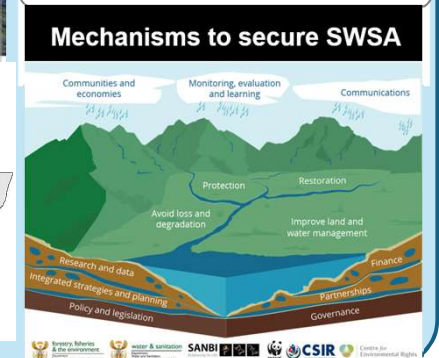


LC and protection of assets that feed major dams?



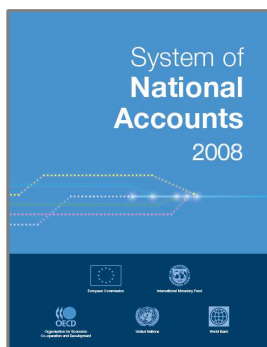
SWSAs with high rates of change in land cover and low levels of protection helped to prioritise SWSAs for gov 5-year target

Measures allocated to secure 6 SWSAs (March 2024)



2025 System of National Accounts

Internationally agreed standard on how to compile measures of economic activity



Towards the 2025 SNA

A three-pronged approach is used for the update of the 2008 SNA currently in process:

1. Undertaking technical research in prioritized and other national accounts issues and experimentation and testing of selected recommendations.
2. Engaging in a broad consultation on the issues related to the thematic areas.
3. Ensuring overall consistency with other statistical standards in the system of economic statistics.



Wellbeing and Sustainability Task Team (WSTT) – guidance notes work relevant to NCA work in South Africa includes:

- WS.6 Accounting for the Economic Ownership and Depletion of Natural Resources
- WS.7 Treatment of Emission Trading Schemes
- WS.8 Accounting for Biological Resources
- WS.10 Valuation of Mineral and Energy Resources
- WS.11 Treatment of Renewable Energy Resources as Assets
- WS.12 Environmental Classifications

2025 System of National Accounts

**new 2025
SNA
chapters**

Chapter 2:
National accounts and its contribution to measuring well-being and sustainability
Draft – Version 10.1
(new chapter)

Chapter 35:
Measuring the sustainability of well-being
(new chapter)
The SEEA EA framework



Figure 2.1: A broader and enhanced combination of accounts

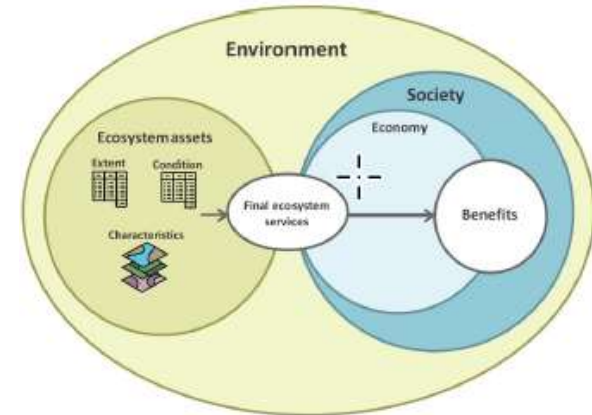
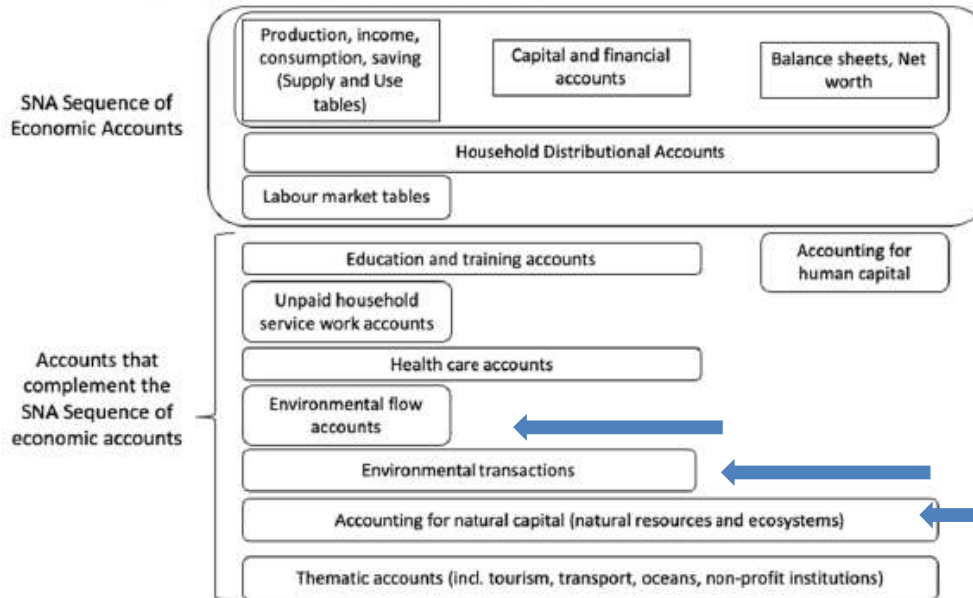


Figure 35.3: Connection between the ecosystem accounts (SEEA Ecosystem Accounting)



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UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

- UNCEEA functions as an umbrella body to provide overall vision, coordination, prioritization and direction in the field of environmental-economic accounting.
- The UNCEEA meets once a year and is governed by the Bureau of the UNCEEA.
- 19th meeting of the UNCEEA was held virtually on 25-26 June 2024 – focus on work plans of each of the 5 areas of the UNCEEA for the medium-term (12-18 months).

Area A: Coordination and Communication - Lead is Statistics Canada

Area B1: SEEA Central Framework - Lead is Statistics Netherlands

Area B2: SEEA Ecosystem Accounting - Lead is South Africa

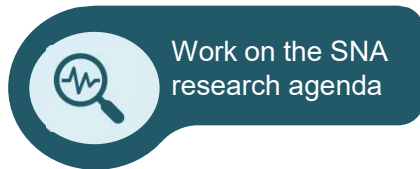
Area C: Development of Global Databases for SEEA - Lead is OECD

Area D: Implementation and Statistical Capacity Building - Lead is Kenya Bureau of Statistics and UNSIAP

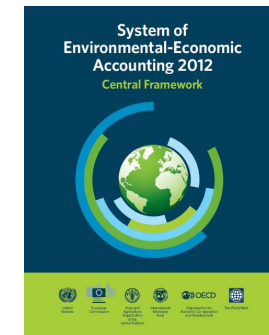
System of Environmental-Economic Accounting(SEEA) Central Framework

- The SEEA CF technical committee met continuously during 2023/2024 for the update of the SEEA CF to ensure its coherence with the ongoing update of the System of National Accounts (SNA) and other macroeconomic standards and international classifications, as well as to address other emerging issues.

Why update the SEEA CF:



- Under the auspices of the UNCEEA, the SEEA CF Technical Committee, with UNSD as secretariat, will lead the management of the SEEA CF update process



Central Framework:
Deals with accounts for stocks and flows of **individual natural resources**, e.g. minerals, water, timber, fish

Proposed programme of work

Developed a programme of work for 2023-2025, with six components:

1. Development of practical guidance notes for countries for the compilation of SEEA EA
2. **Supporting development of headline indicators for the GBF that are based on SEEA Ecosystem Accounting**
3. Overseeing working groups on forest ecosystems and ocean accounting
4. Contributing to the broader SEEA and SNA processes
5. Engaging with relevant initiatives
6. Promoting the community of practice on ecosystem accounting



Ecosystem Accounting:
Deals with accounts for **ecosystem assets** and **ecosystem services**

THANK YOU!

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Thank You



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